

spending money out of their own pocket. You are going to go back home and you are going to explain to your people that for some reason spending this five or six million bucks is holy and justified and worthwhile. A year ago it was wildly extravagant. A year ago there were all kinds of charges thrown around about state aid to education, how it wouldn't affect the property tax, how it didn't hold down the cost of government, how it encouraged local school boards to spend more money. Now if there were a real crisis involved here, if they were closing schools, I would be for it. Let me say right at the outset that in my area we are going to lose some money. Let me say also that the people in my area know exactly why they are going to lose money. They are going to lose some money because someone signed a petition and said let's not bring LB 33 into play. If the people of the State of Nebraska feel that they were misled, they were. The facts are that it did cost them money to sign that petition. The facts were that they were misled. They were misled by people who said the big spenders are at it again and the only way you are going to bring them into check is to sign this petition and I have a copy of a letter now that is going out again addressed to taxpayers. It talks about the same thing. You have got to hold down the cost of government. You have got to do something or else this thing is going to run away rampant. Let me tell you the best way to hold down the cost of government. If the people in my school district are aware of what is happening to their property taxes because of what happened to LB 33, they are going to march on the school boards and they are going to say, look, we don't want any more of those unnecessary frills. We think it is time to put a stop to it. As long as the thing continues in the present vein of shifting the responsibility and that is what we are doing here. You know, as far as I am concerned, if you introduce a bill and it becomes law and it has a bad result, you take the responsibility for it. If you stop the implementation of a bill and the result is bad and you have got any guts or backbone, you say, look, we made a mistake. We blundered. We didn't listen. Now Senator DeCamp warned and warned and warned, time after time after time, exactly what would happen and no one heeded him. He told the drafters of the petition what would happen, if they proceeded in the manner in which they did and they ignored him. There were others who did the same thing. But those warnings were ignored and so now someone says, well, we have got to straighten it out. We have got to take the people who created the mess off the hot seat. Now someone says that is a narrow-minded vindictive approach. That is not. That is accountability and responsibility and there ought to be enough to go around for all 49 of us and maybe one or two extra to throw in to boot who like to legislate from afar. The point I am going to make is this, you haven't solved a single problem when you come in and shovel out another \$6 million of sales and income tax money in this manner, except I can tell you what the stories will say. They'll say, well, the Legislature finally dug themselves out of that mess that they were in. The Legislature didn't put ourselves in the mess. Now the point is, as Senator Kremer has touched upon and several other Senators, we do not have a long term solution. You are never going to have a long term solution to a problem that is continually changing in focus because of the changing nature